

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: HAEBERLE ET AL.	
Appl. No.: 10/629,226	Conf. No.: 5321
Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR OBTAINING SERVICE CONTRACT INFORMATION	Art Unit: 2168
Filed: JULY 28, 2003	Examiner: GORTAYO, DANGELINO N.
Docket No.: 2003P11236US	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT
DATED MARCH 3, 2008**

Examiner Gortayo:

In response to the Notice dated March 3, 2008, please consider the following remarks and documentation presented herewith.

On March 30, 2007, a non-final Office Action was mailed to Applicants by the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. Applicants' representative Michael J. Wallace (Reg. No. 44,486) prepared and filed a Response on May 4, 2007. Because the Response was electronically submitted before the shortened statutory period for reply set to expire on June 30, 2007, the Response was timely filed. A copy of the originally filed Response is attached herewith and identified as **Exhibit A**. Further attached is a copy of the Electronic Filing Receipt, EFS ID 1746120, provided as confirmation of electronic submission. The Electronic Filing Receipt indicates that the originally filed Response was submitted on May 4, 2007 at 16:13:11 EDT. A copy of the Electronic Filing Receipt is attached herewith and identified as **Exhibit B**.

On October 23, 2007, Applicants' representative Laura M. Slenzak (Reg. No. 35363) was contacted regarding the status of the above-identified application. Ms. Slenzak confirmed that a Response was filed on May 4, 2007 and that there was no intent to allow the above-identified application go abandoned. To this end, Ms. Slenzak provided, via facsimile, copies of the originally filed Response and the

Electronic Filing Receipt. A copy of the facsimile and associated documents is attached herewith and identified as **Exhibit C**.

On March 3, 2008, Applicants received a Notice of Abandonment indicating that the October 23, 2007 communication was insufficient.

On March 25, 2008, Applicants' representative Matthew T. Ridsdale (Reg. No. 56,832) conducted a teleconference with the Examiner to discuss the status of the above-identified application and the October 23, 2007 facsimile. Applicants' representative wishes to thank Examiner Gortayo for his help and insight regarding the preparing this response.

Applicants submit and assert that the above-discussed actions were taken in a timely manner, and in an effort to ensure the continued prosecution of the above-identified application. Moreover, Applicants submit and assert that the **Exhibits A to C** support the assertion that the above-discussed actions were taken in a timely manner.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Notice of Abandonment and consideration of the originally filed Response dated May 4, 2007. While Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with this application, Applicants direct the Office to charge **Deposit Account No. 19-2179** for any fees deemed owed during the pendency of this application, excluding the issue fee.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: **March 28, 2008**

BY: /Matthew T. Ridsdale/
Matthew T. Ridsdale
Reg. No. 56,832
Cust. No. **28524**
Direct: (312) 245-5311

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Haeberle, et al.	Examiner:	Gortayo, Dangelino N.
Appl. No.	10/629,226	Art Unit:	2168
Filed:	07/28/03	Docket:	2003P11236US
For:	Method and System for Obtaining Service Contract Information		

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

RESPONSE

In response to the non-final Office Action that was mailed on March 30, 2007,
please amend the application as follows:

The Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

IN THE CLAIMS:

We claim:

1. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method for retrieving information relating to service contracts for a plurality of building sites:
providing a web portal comprising a database, and storing information about a plurality of service contracts for a plurality of building sites in said database;
receiving a request from one or more clients to retrieve from said database information about service contracts for an selected individual building site; and
determining a plurality of service contracts that are implicated by said request; and
communicating said service contract information to a client.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said service contract information further comprises information about the type of building system a service contract pertains to.
4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said service contract information further comprises information about the type of equipment covered under the service contract.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising receiving a request from a client for information about the service history for a service contract, and communicating said service history information for a service contract to the client.
6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, further comprising receiving a request from a client to provide further information about an individual service activity, and communicating said information about an individual service activity to the client.
7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising communicating further information about the type of system said service contracts pertain to a client.
8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising communicating further information to a client about the type of equipment said service contracts pertain to.
9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising communicating further information about the status of the said service contracts.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising communicating information about one or more building sites covered under a service contract to a client.
11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising receiving a request to retrieve a technical diagram about a piece of equipment covered under a service agreement and transmitting said technical diagram to a client.
12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the type of building system is selected from the group comprising HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems.
13. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method for retrieving information relating to service contracts for a plurality of building sites:
 - providing a web portal comprising a database, and storing information about a plurality of service contracts for a plurality of building sites in said database;
 - receiving a request from one or more clients to retrieve information from said database about service contracts for a selected individual building site for a plurality of different types of building systems; determining one or more service contracts that are implicated by said request; and communicating the service contract information to a client.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, comprising receiving a user request to retrieve information about service contracts for an individual building site, and communicating said information about service contracts for an individual building site to a client.
15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein said service contract information further comprises information about the type of equipment covered under the service contract.
16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising receiving a request from a client for information about the service history for a service contract, and communicating said service history information for a service contract to a client.
17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, further comprising receiving a request from a client to provide further information about an individual service activity, and communicating said further information about an individual service activity to a client.
18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising communicating said service contract information according to the type of building system the contract pertains to.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising communicating said service contract information according to the type of equipment said service contracts pertain to.
20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising communicating said service contract information according to the status of the service contracts.
21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising communicating information about one or more building sites covered under a service contract to a client.
22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising receiving a request to retrieve a technical diagram about a piece of equipment covered under a service agreement and communicating said technical diagram to a client.
23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the type of building system is selected from the group comprising HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems.

REMARKS

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. Claims 1 and 3-23 are pending in this application. In the March 30, 2007 non-final office action:

A. Rejected claims 1 and 3-23 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer in view of Landau et al.

B. The Examiner's Rejection of claims 1 and 3-23 under 35 USC 102(e) should be withdrawn

Before turning to the examiner's rejection, a brief summary of the present invention is provided. As shown in blocks 2704, 2708 and 2712 of Fig. 27, once a user has accessed the web portal of the present invention, general service information about the user's one or more building sites may be obtained. As discussed in the specification, the web portal may then receive a request for information about service contract information from an individual building. The result can be seen in FIG 22 for example, where the user can obtain information such as contract number, status of the contract, renewal date, when the service contract is due for renewal, the service technician responsible for the service contract, type of system or systems covered under the service contract. At 1620 in Fig. 22, the user can also obtain a service history for a particular contract, as well as scheduled services. At 1660, the user can obtain information about building sites and equipment covered under a service contract.

Now turning to the examiner's rejections, the examiner has indicated that the Meyer reference teaches all of the limitations of claim 1, except that Meyer does not teach service contracts for building sites. The examiner has relied upon paragraphs 0005, 0008, 0053 and 0058 of Landau to correct this deficiency. However, a review of these paragraphs make it clear that Landau does not teach providing service contract information for a selected building site as claim 1 requires. A review of paragraphs 0008 and 0009 for example indicate that Landau instead teaches providing service contract data not for a building site, but for individual pieces of equipment which are likely located within a building site. There is nothing in the Landau reference that would suggest providing service contract information based upon a user's selection of a building site to obtain service contract information as claim 1 requires.

Regarding claims 3, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11, the examiner's rejection of these dependent claims clearly contradicts the admission the examiner made with respect to claim 1. In claim 1, the examiner has acknowledged that Meyer fails to disclose anything about service contract information, and then in these dependent claims, which clearly relate to particular kinds of service contract information, the examiner has relied upon the Meyer reference. It is respectfully submitted, especially in light of the examiner's own admission, that Meyer fails to disclose anything remotely relating to the types of service contract information as set forth in these dependent claims. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 3,5,6,7,10 and 11 for at least this reason.

With respect to independent claim 13, this claim is similar to scope as claim 1, but further includes the limitation of providing a user with information about service contracts for a selected individual building site for a plurality of different types of building systems. As with the rejection of claim 1, the examiner has indicated that the Meyer reference teaches all of the limitations of claim 13, except that Meyer does not teach service contracts for building sites. Its unclear from the examiner's response whether the examiner fully understands the subtle difference in claim scope from claim 1. As with the rejection of claim 1, the examiner has relied upon paragraphs 0005, 0008, 0053 and 0058 of Landau to correct this deficiency. However, a review of these paragraphs make it clear that Landau does not teach providing service contract information for a selected building site as claim 1 requires, nor does it teach providing service contract information for a plurality of different types of systems, as claim 13 requires. A review of paragraphs 0008 and 0009 for example indicate that Landau instead teaches providing service contract data not for a building site, but for individual pieces of equipment which are likely located within a building site. There is nothing in the Landau reference that would suggest providing service contract information based upon a user's selection of a building site to obtain service contract information for a plurality of different types of systems as claim 13 requires.

Regarding claims 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21,22 and 23 the examiner's rejection of these dependent claims clearly contradicts the admission the examiner made with respect to claim 13. In claim 13, the examiner has acknowledged that Meyer fails to disclose anything about service contract information, and then in these dependent

claims, which clearly relate to particular kinds of service contract information, the examiner has relied upon the Meyer reference. It is respectfully submitted, especially in light of the examiner's own admission, that Meyer fails to disclose anything remotely relating to the types of service contract information as set forth in these dependent claims. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 14,16,17, 18, 20, 21, 22 and 23 for at least this reason.

Conclusion

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted the applicants have made a patentable contribution to the art. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Date: 5/04/2007

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Wallace
Registration No. 44,486
Attorney for Applicant

Customer No. 28524
SIEMENS CORPORATION
Tel. No. (732) 321-3008

Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	1746120
Application Number:	10629226
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	5321
Title of Invention:	Method and system for obtaining service contract information
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Brad Haeberle
Correspondence Address:	Siemens Corporation Intellectual Property Department 170 Wood Avenue South - Iselin NJ 08830 US 7323213008 -
Filer:	Michael J. Wallace/Nancy Demko
Filer Authorized By:	Michael J. Wallace
Attorney Docket Number:	2003P11236US
Receipt Date:	04-MAY-2007
Filing Date:	28-JUL-2003
Time Stamp:	16:13:11
Application Type:	Utility

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no
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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes)	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Amendment - After Non-Final Rejection	2003P11236US.pdf	447158	no	13

Warnings:

Information:

Total Files Size (in bytes):

447158

This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.

New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office

If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.

10/23/2007 8:54:16 PM

Slenzak Laura (uid73819)

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Page 1

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OCT 23 2007

+1 (248) 209-4050

SIEMENS VDO
A u t o m o t i v e

Facsimile transmittal

To: Examiner Gortayo GROUP 2168 Fax: _____
From: Slenzak Laura (uid73819) Date: 10/23/2007
+1 (248) 209-4050 8:53:53 PM
Re: copies of response that was EFS filed 04-May-2007 Pages: 17
Dear Examiner Gortayo:

Per my phone message of tonight, it may be best if I sent these to you via email rather than fax if you find that the quality on your end (a fax of a copy of a scan) ends up being too grainy. If you need me to PDF these, please just email me back with your email address and I will send right away.

Thank you for the 'one last chance' phone call before you were going to issue a notice of abandonment, because obviously we did not intent to abandon and it appears simply that EFS and IFW are not talking to each other.

Regards,
Laura M. Slenzak
Senior Intellectual Property Counsel
Siemens Corporation
2400 Executive Hills Boulevard
Auburn Hills MI 48326-2980 USA
tel. = +1-248-209-5698
fax = +1-248-209-7335

E-mail = laura.slenzak@siemens.com <<mailto:laura.slenzak@siemens.com>>

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The Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**Atty Dkt. No. 2003 P 11236 US **OCT 23 2007****IN THE CLAIMS:**

We claim:

1. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method for retrieving information relating to service contracts for a plurality of building sites:
providing a web portal comprising a database, and storing information about a plurality of service contracts for a plurality of building sites in said database;
receiving a request from one or more clients to retrieve from said database information about service contracts for an selected individual building site; and
determining a plurality of service contracts that are implicated by said request; and
communicating said service contract information to a client.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said service contract information further comprises information about the type of building system a service contract pertains to.
4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said service contract information further comprises information about the type of equipment covered under the service contract.

Atty Dkt. No. 2003 P 11236 US

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising receiving a request from a client for information about the service history for a service contract, and communicating said service history information for a service contract to the client.
6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, further comprising receiving a request from a client to provide further information about an individual service activity, and communicating said information about an individual service activity to the client.
7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising communicating further information about the type of system said service contracts pertain to a client.
8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising communicating further information to a client about the type of equipment said service contracts pertain to.
9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising communicating further information about the status of the said service contracts.
10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising

Atty Dkt. No. 2003 P 11236 US

communicating information about one or more building sites covered under a service contract to a client.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising receiving a request to retrieve a technical diagram about a piece of equipment covered under a service agreement and transmitting said technical diagram to a client.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the type of building system is selected from the group comprising HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method for retrieving information relating to service contracts for a plurality of building sites:

providing a web portal comprising a database, and storing information about a plurality of service contracts for a plurality of building sites in said database; receiving a request from one or more clients to retrieve information from said database about service contracts for a selected individual building site for a plurality of different types of building systems; determining one or more service contracts that are implicated by said request; and communicating the service contract information to a client.

Atty Dkt. No. 2003 P 11236 US

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, comprising receiving a user request to retrieve information about service contracts for an individual building site, and communicating said information about service contracts for an individual building site to a client.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein said service contract information further comprises information about the type of equipment covered under the service contract.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising receiving a request from a client for information about the service history for a service contract, and communicating said service history information for a service contract to a client.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, further comprising receiving a request from a client to provide further information about an individual service activity, and communicating said further information about an individual service activity to a client.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising communicating said service contract information according to the type of building system the contract pertains to.

Atty Dkt. No. 2003 P 11236 US

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising communicating said service contract information according to the type of equipment said service contracts pertain to.
20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising communicating said service contract information according to the status of the service contracts.
21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising communicating information about one or more building sites covered under a service contract to a client.
22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising receiving a request to retrieve a technical diagram about a piece of equipment covered under a service agreement and communicating said technical diagram to a client.
23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the type of building system is selected from the group comprising HVAC systems, fire safety systems and mechanical systems.

Atty Dkt. No. 2003 P 11236 US

REMARKS**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

I. Claims 1 and 3-23 are pending in this application. In the March 30, 2007 non-final office action:

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B. The Examiner's Rejection of claims 1 and 3-23 under 35 USC 102(e) should be withdrawn

Before turning to the examiner's rejection, a brief summary of the present invention is provided. As shown in blocks 2704, 2708 and 2712 of Fig. 27, once a user has accessed the web portal of the present invention, general service information about the user's one or more building sites may be obtained. As discussed in the specification, the web portal may then receive a request for information about service contract information from an individual building. The result can be seen in FIG 22 for example, where the user can obtain information such as contract number, status of the contract, renewal date, when the service contract is due for renewal, the service technician responsible for the service contract, type of system or systems covered under the service contract. At 1620 in Fig. 22, the user can also obtain a service history for a particular contract, as well as scheduled services. At 1660, the user can obtain information about building sites and equipment covered under a service contract.

Atty Dkt. No. 2003 P 11236 US

Now turning to the examiner's rejections, the examiner has indicated that the Meyer reference teaches all of the limitations of claim 1, except that Meyer does not teach service contracts for building sites. The examiner has relied upon paragraphs 0005, 0008, 0053 and 0058 of Landau to correct this deficiency. However, a review of these paragraphs make it clear that Landau does not teach providing service contract information for a selected building site as claim 1 requires. A review of paragraphs 0008 and 0009 for example indicate that Landau instead teaches providing service contract data not for a building site, but for individual pieces of equipment which are likely located within a building site. There is nothing in the Landau reference that would suggest providing service contract information based upon a user's selection of a building site to obtain service contract information as claim 1 requires.

Regarding claims 3, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11, the examiner's rejection of these dependent claims clearly contradicts the admission the examiner made with respect to claim 1. In claim 1, the examiner has acknowledged that Meyer fails to disclose anything about service contract information, and then in these dependent claims, which clearly relate to particular kinds of service contract information, the examiner has relied upon the Meyer reference. It is respectfully submitted, especially in light of the examiner's own admission, that Meyer fails to disclose anything remotely relating to the types of service contract information as set forth in these dependent claims. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of claims 3,5,6,7,10 and 11 for at least this reason.

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Regarding claims 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22 and 23 the examiner's rejection of these dependent claims clearly contradicts the admission the examiner made with respect to claim 13. In claim 13, the examiner has acknowledged that Meyer fails to disclose anything about service contract information, and then in these dependent

Atty Dkt. No. 2003 P 11236 US

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Slenzak, Laura (uid73819)

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Conclusion

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted the applicants have made a patentable contribution to the art. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

Michael J. Wallace
Registration No. 44,486
Attorney for Applicant

Customer No. 28524
SIEMENS CORPORATION
Tel. No. (732) 321-3008



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Acknowledgement Receipt

The USPTO has received your submission at **16:13:11** Eastern Time on **04**

No fees have been paid for this submission. Please remember to pay any re abandonment of your application.

eFiled Application Information

EFS ID 1746120
 Application Number 10629226
 Confirmation Number 5321
 Title of Invention Method and system for obtaining service contract information
 First Named Inventor Brad Haeberle
 Customer Number or Correspondence Address Siemens Corporation
 Intellectual Property Department
 170 Wood Avenue South
 Iselin
 NJ 08830 US
 7323213008
 Filed By Michael J. Wallace/Nancy Demko
 Attorney Docket Number 2003P11236US
 Filing Date 28-JUL-2003
 Receipt Date 04-MAY-2007
 Application Type Utility

Application Details

Submitted Files	Page Count	Document Description	File Size
2003P11236US.pdf	13	Amendment - After Non-Final Rejection	447158 b

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Page 14

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Slenzak Laura (uid73819)

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Page 15

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER**OCT 23 2007****Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt**

EFS ID:	1746120
Application Number:	10629228
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	5321
Title of Invention:	Method and system for obtaining service contract information
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Brad Haeblerle
Correspondence Address:	Siemens Corporation Intellectual Property Department 170 Wood Avenue South Iselin NJ 08830 US 7323213008
Filer:	Michael J. Wallace/Nancy Demko
Filer Authorized By:	Michael J. Wallace
Attorney Docket Number:	2003P11236US
Receipt Date:	04-MAY-2007
Filing Date:	28-JUL-2003
Time Stamp:	16:13:11
Application Type:	Utility

Payment Information:

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